

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 6, 9, 16, and 19 are amended merely to place them in better form.

The Examiner has required an election in the present application between:

Species A: drawn to the subject matter of FIGS. 1-6;

Species B: drawn to the subject matter of FIGS. 7 and 8;

Species C: drawn to the subject matter of FIGS. 9A and 9B;

Species D: drawn to the subject matter of FIG. 10.

The Examiner states that claims 1-5, 11, 13, and 14 are generic.

**For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Species A, claims 1-6 and 11-16.**

A. TRAVERSAL

It is respectfully submitted that the election of species requirement is improper in view of the fact that a reasonable number of species is set forth in the present application. If the Examiner considers the generic claims to be allowable, then all of the claims should be examined in a single application.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his election of species requirement and act on all of the claims in the present application. If the Examiner does persist in his election of species requirement, the Applicants reserve the right to file one or


more divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims at a later date if they so desire.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

James M. Slattery

Registration No.: 28,380

# 43,368

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Rd.

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant

for